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SEP 18 2007

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 7,040,490	: DECISION GRANTING PETITION
Issue Date: May 9, 2006	: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) AND
Application No. 10/603,758	: REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF
Filed: June 25, 2003	: CORRECTION
Attorney Docket No. 2000P13027WOUS	:

This is a decision on the renewed petition, filed May 29, 2007, which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), seeking to add a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 365(c) for the benefit of priority to prior-filed PCT Application No. PCT/EP01/14300, filed December 5, 2001, by way of a certificate of correction.

The petition is **granted**.

A review of the file record fails to disclose that a claim for the benefit of priority to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional application was made within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and further failed to include a proper reference to the prior-filed application as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) and 1.78(a)(2)(iii).

The instant application was filed June 25, 2003. Therefore, since this application was filed after November 29, 2000, a petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), along with submission of a Certificate of Correction, is the appropriate avenue of relief to accept a late claim for the benefit of priority to a prior-filed nonprovisional application after issuance of the application into a patent. *See* MPEP 1481.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Director may

require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.


As the petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 365(c) to the above-noted, prior-filed PCT application satisfies the conditions of 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), the petition is granted.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional application, accompanies this decision on petition.

Petitioner is advised that the granting of this petition and the mailing of a corrected Filing Receipt should not be viewed as an indication that a determination has been made that this application is entitled to claim benefit of the prior-filed application. A determination that applicant is entitled to claim benefit of the prior-filed application will be made by the Examiner prior to the mailing of a certificate of correction.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to David Bucci at (571) 272-7099.

This application is being referred to the Certificates of Correction Branch for processing the request for a certificate of correction in accordance with this decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3).

  
David Bucci  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions

ATTACHMENT: Corrected Filing Receipt



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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/603,758	06/25/2003	1723	1430	2000P13027WOUS	16	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 2139

46726  
 BSH HOME APPLIANCES CORPORATION  
 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT  
 100 BOSCH BOULEVARD  
 NEW BERN, NC 28562

## CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000025868068\*

Date Mailed: 09/17/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).**

## Applicant(s)

Helmut Jerg, Giengen, GERMANY;

## Assignment For Published Patent Application

BSH Bosch und Siemens Hausgerate GmbH, Munich, GERMANY

**Power of Attorney:** The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 000046726.

## Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of PCT/EP01/14300 12/05/2001

## Foreign Applications

GERMANY 10065661.7 12/29/2000

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 09/10/2003

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/603,758**

Projected Publication Date: Not Applicable

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

FILTER

Preliminary Class

210

## PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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